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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

Letter dated 2 July 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention a note dated 29 June 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, concerning the recent decision by the Supreme Court of the United States of America which would allow persons abducted abroad by agencies of the United States Government to be tried before United States courts (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda items 68 and 127.

(Signed) René MUJICA CANTELAR
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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ANNEX

Note dated 29 June 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba

The recent decision by the United States Supreme Court which authorizes the trial before a United States court of a Mexican citizen who was abducted in Mexico constitutes a flagrant violation of the principles and norms of international law.

Washington's attempt to extend its jurisdiction beyond United States frontiers is patently illegal, and can only reflect the state of mind of rulers who, inebriated by hegemonic delusions, go so far as to arrogate to themselves the role of international policemen.

Cuba rejects such arbitrary conduct, which shows the contempt of the United States for the sovereign equality of States, the foundation of the international legal order, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and in the principles and norms of international law. The decision has evoked unanimous condemnation in Latin America and elsewhere, and has led to expressions of solidarity with Mexico, which solidarity Cuba reaffirms in the strongest terms.

Our country has also, for more than 30 years, been a victim of Washington's illegal predominance and its arrogant disrespect for the norms which govern relations between sovereign States. How else can we characterize the criminal economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed against our country? Has the blockade not been, and does it not continue to be, the clearest example of extraterritoriality, as Washington attempts to apply its anti-Cuban regulations in other countries, ignoring the sovereignty and the rights and interests of third parties? Is not the gross interference in the internal affairs of other States, as practised by its representatives in their ferocious world-wide vendetta against commercial, economic and financial ties with Cuba, further proof of this?

We cannot fail to mention that this same Government, which arrogates to itself police functions beyond its frontiers, in its own territory allows terrorist groups to organize and train for the purpose of launching armed attacks on Cuba; that this same Government protects Orlando Bosch and Luis Posada Carriles, the perpetrators of the monstrous sabotage which, on 6 October 1976, destroyed a Cubana Airlines aircraft in mid-flight; and that it has so far prevented justice from being done with regard to this horrendous crime.

This decision by the highest tribunal of the United States, which is now dominated by ultraconservatives and racists, defines it as an instrument of imperialism, and exposes the fallacies concerning the alleged independence of the judiciary in that country.

The Government of the Republic of Cuba reaffirms that national sovereignty is inviolable, that it cannot be challenged or diminished by the spurious decisions of any court and that no State, however powerful it may be, has any authority to disregard the norms of law and to act as if it owned the world.